PATENT

/N 10/023,318

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pplicant:

LAROSE et al.

Examiner:

unknown

Serial No.:

10/023,318

Group Art Unit:

unknown

Filed:

14 December 2001

Docket No.:

9555.123USU1

Title:

METHOD FOR SCREENING AND/OR IDENTIFYING FACTORS THAT

BIND TO NUCLEIC ACIDS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV037622405US

Date of Deposit: August 2, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Box SEQUENCE, Washington, D.C. 20231.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please find enclosed substitute pages 22 and 23 depicting Tables 1 and 2. Please replace pages 22 and 23 submitted with the application papers on 14 December 2001, with the enclosed pages.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to introduce substitute pages 22 and 23 depicting Tables 1 and 2 in which the sequence listing is shown.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Marked-up Copy".

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Gregory A. Sebald (Reg. No. 33,280), at (612) 336.4728.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Dated: 2 August 2002

Gregory A. Sebald Reg. No. 33,280

GAS:hjh